

862.C2266

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MINORU TESHIGAWARA) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD) June 14, 2001
AND APPARATUS AND IMAGE)
PROCESSING SYSTEM)

Commissioner for Patents
Box New Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 20 as follows. A marked-up copy
of Claim 20, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

20. (Amended) The system according to claim 19,
wherein said encrypting means encrypts the information-added data
to make it difficult to detect a position where the additional
information is added.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 23 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 17, 19 and 22 being independent. Claim 20 has been amended to place it in proper dependent form under U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Applicant requests favorable consideration of the above-referenced application in view of the foregoing amendment.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

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VERSIONS WITH MARKS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIM 20

20. (Amended) The system according to claim [20]
19, wherein said encrypting means encrypts the information-added
data to make it difficult to detect a position where the
additional information is added.

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